

School Division and congratulate the following educators on obtaining certification or recertification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Founded in 1987, the National Board was established by teachers for teachers as the premier vehicle for defining and recognizing accomplished educators. Today, the independent nonprofit organization remains dedicated to supporting excellence in education and is governed by classroom teachers, school administrators, school board leaders, governors and state legislators, higher education officials, teacher union leaders, and business and community leaders.

A National Board Certification denotes the most respected professional certification available in the education field. Obtaining certification and completing the renewal process is a personal and public statement of one's commitment to the evolution of effective instruction methods. In order to obtain the distinction, teachers must display a mastering of the standards established by the National Board by successfully completing a rigorous multi-component assessment that demonstrates that he or she has acquired the knowledge, skills, and practices required of an accomplished educator. Certified educators support a vision of teaching based on the following five core propositions:

1. Teachers are committed to students and their learning;
2. Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students;
3. Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning;
4. Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience; and
5. Teachers are members of learning communities.

I extend my personal congratulations and appreciation to the following 2016 National Board Certified Teachers for receiving their respective certifications and renewals:

Schenell Agee—Library Media Programs and Research
 Alise Brooks—Dale City Elementary School
 James Carroll—Freedom High School
 Melissa Dembele—Featherstone Elementary School
 Elise Dutton—Benton Middle School
 Rhonda Ellington—Mullen Elementary School
 Christy Katsourakis—Enterprise Elementary School
 Lauren Mack—T. Clay Wood Elementary School
 Karisa Marcy—Piney Branch Elementary School
 Christine Petrus—Haymarket Elementary School
 Jennifer Roberts—Patriot High School
 Carey Shenal—Stonewall Jackson High School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending these teachers for their commitment to education, professional development, and the students of Prince William County Public Schools. The world-class education provided to our students is due to the tireless efforts of teachers who make excellence the standard and I thank them for their invaluable contributions.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WALL OF HONOR WITHIN THE FRESNO AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL MUSEUM

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the State Center Community College District's Wall of Honor within the Fresno African American Historical and Cultural Museum in celebration of its 20 year anniversary. As we celebrate Black History Month, it is important to note this important part of the museum which has highlighted successes in the African American community throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

The African American Historical and Cultural Museum was the creation of Jack Kelley, the first African American police sergeant in Fresno. Passionate about black history, Jack wanted to create a place where people could go to recognize and enjoy black history throughout our Valley. Jack and former State Center Community College District chancellor, Dr. Bill F. Stewart, coined the idea of creating a Wall of Honor within the museum, where exceptional African American leaders affiliated with the State Center Community College District could be recognized. Since 1996, the Wall of Honor has served as a platform to highlight the success of notable African Americans in our community. Each year, a committee of local leaders accepts nominations for the Wall of Honor and selects the inductees. Those inducted into the Wall of Honor must have attended, worked or served the State Center Community College District.

The Wall of Honor acts as a representation of the triumphs African Americans in the State Center Community College District have achieved. It will serve as a place for where the brilliance, accomplishments, and strength of our black community leaders will be honored. It is my great pleasure to honor the Wall of Honor for a successful 20 years. I also commemorate the services of all the staff of the museum and the State Center Community College District who have worked hard to educate our community and preserve our Valley's African American History. I send my best wishes for many years to come.

GINGER ONTIVEROS VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE ALUMNI HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service and induction of Ginger Ontiveros to the Victor Valley College Alumni Hall of Fame. Ginger was the previous Executive Director of Victor Valley College Foundation and was instrumental in changing the landscape of higher education within Victor Valley. As an alumnus of VVC, Ginger is extremely compassionate and thoughtful towards the needs of students and excelled in her role as Executive Director of the VVC Foundation.

During her 15 years with the Victor Valley College Foundation, Ginger provided Victor Valley College with vast opportunities through securing gifts for VVC, easing enrollment challenges for students, and assisted in the development of the renowned Dr. Prem Reddy Health & Science Building at VVC. This is only a few of the many programs that Ginger implemented which fostered mentors from the Victor Valley community to give back to students attending Victor Valley College.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to thank Ginger Ontiveros for her tireless work and dedication to the students of the High Desert and faculty of Victor Valley College. Ginger Ontiveros' work has shaped education within Victor Valley and I am pleased to hear that she will be inducted in the Victor Valley College's Alumni Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2017 DALE CITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2017 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards.

The Dale City Civic Association represents the interests of the 70,000 residents of Dale City in a manner that benefits the entire community. Association members complete revitalization and beautification projects, advocate for land use projects, and volunteer in response to community needs.

Each year, the Association hosts a recognition banquet to honor individuals and organizations that have shown exemplary devotion to the betterment of the community through public service. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 2017 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards recipients:

Elementary School Teacher of the Year Award: Angela Hunt
 Middle School Teacher of the Year Award: Atif Qarni
 High School Teacher of the Year Award: Larry Baker
 Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Firefighter of the Year Award: Matthew Werner
 Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Emergency Medical Service Provider of the Year Award: Amanda Fleig
 Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Officer of the Year Award: Thomas Mazzo
 Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Cadet of the Year Award: Bradford Burgeson
 Department of Fire and Rescue Firefighter of the Year Award: Technician II John Malley
 Department of Fire and Rescue Emergency Medical Technician Provider of the Year Award: LT Brian Reader
 Police Officers of the Year Award: Officer Bryan B. Gee and Officer Tyler J. Reza
 Deputy Sheriff of the Year Award: Deputy Michael Shepherd
 Kathie Peeney Nurse of the Year Award: Aisha Sesay, BSN, RN
 Kathleen K. Seefeldt Community Service Award: Connie V. Andrews
 Business Owner of the Year Award: Deborah C. Roundtree